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CLAIMS

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What is claimed is:

3 1. A portable tunneling storage and processing apparatus, comprising:
4 a memory,
5 wherein the memory contains a unique apparatus identifier,
6 wherein the memory contains user verifying information;
7 a processor disposed in communication with the memory, and configured to issue a
8 plurality of processing instructions stored in the memory,
9 wherein the processing instructions issue signals to:
10 provide a terminal access to the memory;
11 execute processing instructions from the memory on the terminal to
12 access the terminal, wherein the terminal acts as a proxy for the terminal's input and output
13 peripheral devices, and wherein the terminal acts as a network interface proxy;
14 process processing instructions, wherein the processing instructions
15 are stored in the memory, wherein the processing instructions are used to issue signals to
16 process processing instruction on the processor;
17 encrypt the memory based on the apparatus identifier and user
18 verifying information;
19 effect the display of processing activity on the terminal;
20 a conduit for external communications disposed in communication with the
21 processor, configured to issue a plurality of communication instructions as provided by the
22 processor, configured to issue the communication instructions as signals to engage in
23 communications with other devices having compatible conduits, and configured to receive
24 signals issued from the compatible conduits, wherein the conduits are USB conduits,

25 wherein the communication instructions issue signals to:
26 communicate with a terminal;
27 communicate with a server;
28 wherein the communication instruction issued signals are encrypted,
29 wherein the encryption occurs on the processor,
30 wherein received encrypted instruction signals are decrypted, and
31 wherein decryption occurs on the processor.

1 2. A portable tunneling storage and processing apparatus, comprising:
2 a memory,
3 wherein the memory contains a unique apparatus identifier;
4 a processor disposed in communication with the memory, and configured to issue a
5 plurality of processing instructions stored in the memory,
6 wherein the processing instructions issue signals to:
7 provide a terminal access to the memory,
8 process processing instructions,
9 a conduit for external communications disposed in communication with the
10 processor, configured to issue a plurality of communication instructions as provided by the
11 processor, configured to issue the communication instructions as signals to engage in
12 communications with other devices having compatible conduits, and configured to receive
13 signals issued from the compatible conduits,
14 wherein the communication instructions issue signals to:
15 communicate at a terminal.

1 3. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the unique apparatus identifier is a digital
2 signature.

1 4. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the memory contains user verifying
2 information.

1 5. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the user verifying information is a digital
2 signature.

1 6. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the user verifying information is a
2 username and password.

1 7. The apparatus of claim 6, further, comprising:
2 wherein the processing instructions issue signals to:

3 encrypt the memory based on the unique apparatus identifier and user
4 verifying information.

1 8. The apparatus of claim 2, further, comprising:
2 wherein the processing instructions issue signals to:

3 execute processing instructions from the memory on the terminal to access the
4 terminal.

1 9. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the terminal acts as a proxy for the
2 terminal's input and output peripheral devices, and acts as a network interface proxy.

1 10. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the processing instructions are stored on the
2 memory.

1 11. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the processing instructions are obtained
2 from a server.

1 12. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the processing instructions are processed on
2 the processor.

1 13. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the processing instructions are processed
2 on the processor to process files for printing.

1 14. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the processing instructions are processed on
2 the terminal.

1 15. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the processing instructions are processed on
2 the server.

1 16. The apparatus of claim 2, further, comprising:
2 wherein the processing instructions issue signals to:
3 effect the display of processing activity.

1 17. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the display of processing activity occurs
2 on the terminal.

1 18. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the display of processing activity occurs
2 directly in the terminal's video memory.

1 19. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the conduits are USB conduits.

1 20. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the conduits are wireless conduits.

1 21. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the wireless conduits are Bluetooth.

1 22. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the wireless conduits are WiFi.

1 23. The apparatus of claim 2, further, comprising:
2 wherein the communication instructions issue signals to:
3 communicate with a server.

1 24. The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the communication instruction issued
2 signals are encrypted.

1 25. The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the encryption occurs on the processor.

1 26. The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the encryption occurs on the terminal.

1 27. The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the encryption occurs on the server.

1 28. The apparatus of claim 23, wherein received encrypted instruction signals are
2 decrypted.

1 29. The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the encryption occurs on the processor.

1 30. The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the encryption occurs on the terminal.

1 31. The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the encryption occurs on the server.

1 32. A method of accessing data, comprising:
2 engaging a portable storage device with a terminal,
3 wherein the portable storage device has a processor,
4 wherein the portable storage device connects to the terminal across compatible
5 conduits for external communications, wherein the storage device has a memory, wherein the
6 memory and a storage conduit are disposed in communication with the processor, wherein
7 the conduits are USB conduits;
8 providing the memory for access on the terminal,
9 wherein the memory is mounted on the terminal;
10 executing processing instructions from the memory on the terminal to access the
11 terminal;
12 communicating through the conduit at a terminal,
13 wherein the terminal acts as a proxy for the terminal's input and output
14 peripheral devices, and acts as a network interface proxy,
15 wherein communication instruction issued signals are encrypted,
16 wherein the encryption occurs on the processor,
17 wherein received encrypted instruction signals are decrypted,
18 wherein decryption occurs on the processor;
19 executing processing instructions on the processor,
20 wherein the processing instructions are stored on the memory,
21 wherein the processing instructions are used to issue signals to process

22 processing instruction on the processor; and

23 effecting the display of processing activity on the terminal.

1 33. A method of accessing data, comprising:

2 disposing a portable storage device in communication with a terminal,

3 wherein the portable storage device has a processor,

4 wherein the storage device connects to the terminal across compatible

5 conduits for external communications, wherein the storage device has a memory, wherein the

6 memory and a storage conduit are disposed in communication with the processor;

7 providing the memory for access on the terminal;

8 executing processing instructions from the memory on the terminal to access the

9 terminal;

10 communicating through the conduit;

11 processing processing instructions.

1 34. The method of claim 33, wherein the conduits are USB conduits.

1 35. The method of claim 33, wherein the conduits are wireless conduits.

1 36. The method of claim 35, wherein the wireless conduits are Bluetooth.

1 37. The method of claim 35, wherein the wireless conduits are WiFi.

1 38. The method of claim 33, wherein the memory is mounted at the terminal.

1 39. The method of claim 33, wherein the communication through the conduit is at

2 the terminal.

1 40. The method of claim 39, wherein the terminal acts as a proxy for the

2 terminal's input and output peripheral devices.

1 41. The method of claim 39, wherein the terminal acts as a network interface
2 proxy.

1 42. The method of claim 33, wherein a communications through the conduit are
2 encrypted.

1 43. The method of claim 42, wherein the encryption occurs on the processor.

1 44. The method of claim 43, wherein the encryption occurs on the processor by
2 executing communication instructions from memory.

1 45. The method of claim 42, wherein the encryption occurs on the terminal.

1 46. The method of claim 42, wherein the encryption occurs on the server.

1 47. The method of claim 33, wherein received encrypted instruction signals are
2 decrypted.

1 48. The method of claim 47, wherein the decryption occurs on the processor.

1 49. The method of claim 48, wherein the decryption occurs on the processor by
2 executing communication instructions from memory.

1 50. The method of claim 47, wherein the decryption occurs on the terminal.

1 51. The method of claim 47, wherein the decryption occurs on the server.

1 52. The method of claim 33, wherein the processing instructions are stored in the
2 memory.

1 53. The method of claim 33, wherein the processing of processing instructions
2 occurs on the processor.

1 54. The method of claim 33, wherein the processing of processing instructions
2 occurs on the terminal.

1 55. The method of claim 33, wherein the processing of processing instructions
2 occurs on the server.

1 56. The method of claim 33, wherein the processing instructions are used to issue
2 signals to process processing instruction on the processor.

1 57. The method of claim 55, wherein the processing instructions are used to issue
2 signals to process processing instruction on the processor to process files for printing.

1 58. The method of claim 33, further, comprising:
2 effecting the display of processing activity.

1 59. The method of claim 58, wherein the display occurs on the terminal.

1 60. The method of claim 59, wherein the display occurs on the terminal by writing
2 directly into video memory.

1 61. A system to access data, comprising:
2 means to engage a portable storage device with a terminal,
3 wherein the portable storage device has a processor,
4 wherein the portable storage device connects to the terminal across compatible
5 conduits for external communications, wherein the storage device has a memory, wherein the
6 memory and a storage conduit are disposed in communication with the processor, wherein
7 the conduits are USB conduits;
8 means to provide the memory for access on the terminal,
9 wherein the memory is mounted on the terminal;
10 means to execute processing instructions from the memory on the terminal to access
11 the terminal;
12 means to communicate through the conduit at a terminal,
13 wherein the terminal acts as a proxy for the terminal's input and output
14 peripheral devices, and acts as a network interface proxy,
15 wherein communication instruction issued signals are encrypted,
16 wherein the encryption occurs on the processor,
17 wherein received encrypted instruction signals are decrypted,
18 wherein decryption occurs on the processor;
19 means to execute processing instructions on the processor,
20 wherein the processing instructions are stored on the memory,
21 wherein the processing instructions are used to issue signals to process

22 processing instruction on the processor; and

23 means to effect the display of processing activity on the terminal.

1 62. A system to access data, comprising:

2 means to dispose a portable storage device in communication with a terminal,

3 wherein the portable storage device has a processor,

4 wherein the storage device connects to the terminal across compatible

5 conduits for external communications, wherein the storage device has a memory, wherein the

6 memory and a storage conduit are disposed in communication with the processor;

7 means to provide the memory for access on the terminal;

8 means to execute processing instructions from the memory on the terminal to access

9 the terminal;

10 means to communicate through the conduit;

11 means to process processing instructions.

1 63. A medium readable by a processor to access data, comprising:
2 instruction signals in the processor readable medium, wherein the instruction signals
3 are issuable by the processor to:
4 engage a portable storage device with a terminal,
5 wherein the portable storage device has a processor,
6 wherein the portable storage device connects to the terminal across compatible
7 conduits for external communications, wherein the storage device has a memory, wherein the
8 memory and a storage conduit are disposed in communication with the processor, wherein
9 the conduits are USB conduits;
10 provide the memory for access on the terminal,
11 wherein the memory is mounted on the terminal;
12 execute processing instructions from the memory on the terminal to access the
13 terminal;
14 communicate through the conduit at a terminal,
15 wherein the terminal acts as a proxy for the terminal's input and output
16 peripheral devices, and acts as a network interface proxy,
17 wherein communication instruction issued signals are encrypted,
18 wherein the encryption occurs on the processor,
19 wherein received encrypted instruction signals are decrypted,
20 wherein decryption occurs on the processor;
21 execute processing instructions on the processor,
22 wherein the processing instructions are stored on the memory,

1 65. An apparatus to access data, comprising:
2 a memory;
3 a processor disposed in communication with said memory, and configured to issue a
4 plurality of processing instructions stored in the memory, wherein the instructions issue
5 signals to:
6 engage a portable storage device with a terminal,
7 wherein the portable storage device has a processor,
8 wherein the portable storage device connects to the terminal across compatible
9 conduits for external communications, wherein the storage device has a memory, wherein the
10 memory and a storage conduit are disposed in communication with the processor, wherein
11 the conduits are USB conduits;
12 provide the memory for access on the terminal,
13 wherein the memory is mounted on the terminal;
14 execute processing instructions from the memory on the terminal to access the
15 terminal;
16 communicate through the conduit at a terminal,
17 wherein the terminal acts as a proxy for the terminal's input and output
18 peripheral devices, and acts as a network interface proxy,
19 wherein communication instruction issued signals are encrypted,
20 wherein the encryption occurs on the processor,
21 wherein received encrypted instruction signals are decrypted,
22 wherein decryption occurs on the processor;

23 execute processing instructions on the processor,
24 wherein the processing instructions are stored on the memory,
25 wherein the processing instructions are used to issue signals to process
26 processing instruction on the processor; and
27 means to effect the display of processing activity on the terminal.

1 66. An apparatus to access data, comprising:
2 a memory;
3 a processor disposed in communication with said memory, and configured to issue a
4 plurality of processing instructions stored in the memory, wherein the instructions issue
5 signals to:
6 dispose a portable storage device in communication with a terminal,
7 wherein the portable storage device has a processor,
8 wherein the storage device connects to the terminal across compatible
9 conduits for external communications, wherein the storage device has a memory, wherein the
10 memory and a storage conduit are disposed in communication with the processor;
11 provide the memory for access on the terminal;
12 execute processing instructions from the memory on the terminal to access the
13 terminal;
14 communicate through the conduit;
15 process processing instructions.

1 67. A method of accessing data, comprising:
2 receiving requests from a terminal,
3 wherein a portable storage device is disposed in communication with the
4 terminal,
5 wherein the storage device has a processor,
6 wherein the storage device connects to the terminal across compatible
7 conduits for external communications, wherein the storage device has a memory, wherein the
8 memory and a storage conduit are disposed in communication with the processor, wherein
9 the storage device is responsible for generating the received requests;
10 providing responses to the storage device's requests.

1 68. A method of accessing data, comprising:
2 disposing a portable storage device in communication with a terminal,
3 wherein the storage device has a processor,
4 wherein the storage device connects to the terminal across compatible
5 conduits for external communications, wherein the storage device has a memory;
6 employing the terminal for input/output (I/O) control for the portable storage device;
7 executing instructions on the portable storage device; and
8 displaying results of execution on the terminal.

1 69. The method of claim 68, further, comprising:
2 storing the results of execution on the terminal in the portable storage device's
3 memory.

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